

I support free trade because I am a believer in the power of free markets to efficiently direct our limited resources, spur innovation and investment, and improve our standard of living. As one of the nation's richest agricultural regions, Northern California benefits from the increased exports and job creation that are directly associated with trade. These local jobs are on and off the farm, including transportation workers, processors, packers, and sales and marketing workers. Additionally, Northern California small businesses from other sectors of the economy also benefit from expanded export opportunities, while families and businesses across our nation save thousands of dollars each year from lower-cost imported goods made possible by trade.

To stay competitive in the global economy and expand the benefits of trade, I believe we should be doing everything we can to remove foreign barriers to U.S. goods and services and to level the playing field for American farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, and service providers. To accomplish these goals, I believe Congress should approve the three pending free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea without delay. We should also continue to actively pursue trade agreements with developing nations to increase U.S. market access to these fast-growing economies.

[Click here to read about my latest actions on this issue.](#)

[[go back to "On the Issues" main page](#)]